

Governor's State Trails Council Meeting Minutes

Monday, October 11, 2004

Trempealeau Village Hall Community Room, 24455 Third Street, Trempealeau, WI

10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Council Members present: Mike McFadzen, David Phillips, Donald Kirn, Connie Loden, Tom Huber, Ken Carpenter

Council Members absent: Christopher Kegel, Ramsey Lee, Thomas Thornton

DNR staff present: Peter Biermeier, Brigit Brown

Others present: Jean & William Brown from Minnesota, Scott Frey

| TIME | PRESENTER | ITEMS & TYPE | KEY POINTS | OUTCOMES NEXT STEPS, ASSIGNMENTS |
|------------|--|---|--|---|
| 10:00 a.m. | Mike McFadzen, Chair | Introductions / Agenda changes and Approval of October meeting minutes | Minutes were moved by Phillips, seconded by Huber. Passed. | Brigit Brown will email and post minutes as passed |
| 10:10 a.m. | Mike McFadzen, Chair | Chair Report: Calendar for 2005 meetings, nominating committee for 2005 STC officers, state funding of Transportation Enhancements program | <p>1. An exemption request was submitted to the Department of Administration in regards to volunteers being able to drive state vehicles for help at events, meetings, etc.</p> <p>2. DNR Advisory Committee held a meeting with stakeholders on Aug 14. Brigit Brown was not in attendance. No one has received information about how the meeting went, who was in attendance.</p> <p>3. Mike McFadzen contacted Senator Feingold's office, met with his staff, and asked them to co-sponsor the "Great Outdoors Act." This legislation is important to promote healthy lifestyles as obesity numbers are increasing. A relationship is thought to exist between the increased obesity numbers and increased health care costs.</p> <p>4. From 1998-2003 the State of WI received \$270 million from the Recreation Trails Program, via the Federal Highway Bill. The proposal for the latest Federal Highway Bill has indicated the funding level to be at \$360 million from 2004-2009. Also likely included in the new Highway Bill is funding for "safe routes to school". These are routes that school kids can use either by biking or walking and are alternatives to being driven to school.</p> <p>5. Recognition of three retired STC members; Bill, Joe, and Jeff will take place at April meeting in Madison. 6. The WI Off Highway Vehicle Association is holding an open house in Slinger on November 6th from 1-3pm.</p> <p>7. Mike McFadzen will speak at Bicycle and Pedestrian Conference help in Stevens Point during the last week in October 2004. He will talk about "sharing trails."</p> <p>8. The horse endurance ride on the horse/ATV trail in Clark Cty went well. ATV groups indicated that horse users hold up the number of units in their party and that they should stay to the right on the trail. Better communication is needed. However, a bigger conflict exists between horse users and bikers. These user groups should meet, discuss, and educate the other user groups. This discussion led to more discussion on multiple use issues on trails. Peter Biermeier indicated that this should be a session at the January 10th meeting. The user groups should meet via video, e.g. The event at Clark County should be used as an example.</p> | <p>1. No word has been received from the DOA regarding the Volunteer exemption, possibly looks favorable. <i>Note: since the Oct meeting word has been received that DNR volunteers have been exempted from the DOA requirement. Good news!!</i></p> <p>2. Minutes from the Aug 14 ATV stakeholders meeting will be mailed to STC. 4. Larry Freidig will answer questions at the Jan meeting regarding 2004 RTP grants. 7. Scott Frey will contact Ali Dwyer at the Bicycle Federation of WI about speaking at the Bike/Ped conference. 11. Brigit Brown will set up April meeting and will send a letter inviting the Governor and three former STC members.</p> |
| 10:45 a.m. | Peter Biermeier, Section Chief, WiDNR Bureau of Parks and Recreation | DNR Report: Administrative Code changes, Transportation Enhancements funding update, State Trail update, Strategic Plan update, Trail Pass policy | Bill Morrissey has been named the new Parks and Recreation Bureau Director. Mike Willman will no longer be the Parks Director, as he retires on November 17th. His retirement party will be held on November 13th. Administrative Code (Code) changes are being considered. There is much feedback in regards to camping changes. Some feedback is positive. Trail updates were given on the following trails and programs: Eisenbahn State Trail, Amery to Dresser State Trail, Federal Hwy Bill, and the proposed Hank Aaron State Trail extension. The time period for staff to comment on the state park system strategic plan has ended. This will be going to the public, including the STC, soon. There is a proposal to change the policy where the trail pass is required. A proposal by the STC would allow non-profit/Friends groups to operate and maintain trails within other properties. They would be allowed to keep a percentage of the money received from trail use as would be indicated in the written contract. McFadzen indicated that Wisconsin State Parks and Trails needs a standard method for enforcing issues that arise. McFadzen suggested | Peter Biermeier will inform STC on how to comment on Strategic Plan at Jan meeting. Brigit Brown will get information to comment to the STC. A motion to support the proposed administrative code changes was moved by David Phillips and seconded by Donald Kirn. The motion passed, with a "nay" vote by Ken Carpenter. |
| 11:30 a.m. | Brigit Brown, State Trails Coordinator, WiDNR Bureau of Parks and Recreation | Presentation on Sustainable Trails | Scott Frey, a Wisconsin Off-Road Bicycle Association (WORBA) representative, and Brigit Brown gave a presentation on the principles and benefits of sustainable trails. Presentation is available on the internet via the State Trails Council website: http://dnr.wi.gov/org/land/parks/trails/council/ | |
| | | Lunch | | |
| 1:30 p.m. | | Public Comment | None. | |
| 2:00 p.m. | | Drive to Perrot State Park | | |

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| 2:10 p.m. | Brigit Brown, State Trails Coordinator, WiDNR Bureau of Parks and Recreation | View Trails at Perrot State Park, discuss concept of sustainable trails | Council members Tom Huber, Dave Phillips, Ken Carpenter, and Mike McFadzen, along with Scott Frey, Brigit Brown, and Peter Biermeier walked the trails at Perrot State Park with park employee Lois Larson. Concepts, theories, and potential solutions for how to make trails at Perrot State Park were discussed. Meeting ended with a hike up Brady's Bluff. | |
| 3:00 p.m. | | Adjourn | | |